

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 20, 21, 31, 34-36 and 42-44;

cancel claims 12 and 13 without prejudice and disclaimer as follows.

1. (Previously Presented) A system, comprising:
 - user equipment;
 - a resource node configured to manage resource for communication with said user equipment; and
 - a managing node configured to manage traffic flow, wherein said resource node and said managing node are configured so that negotiation information determined by the at least one resource node is passed between the resource node and the managing node, said managing node selecting a parameter for a new traffic flow based on said negotiation information, wherein said negotiation information comprises cost.
- 2-3. (Cancelled)
4. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said negotiation information further comprises at least one of type of traffic and the bit rate of the traffic.
- 5-9. (Cancelled)

10. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said managing node is located at an edge of a network.

11. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said managing node comprises a gateway general packet radio service support node.

12-13. (Cancelled)

14. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the managing node further provides detecting a new flow and wherein communication between the managing node and resource node is via a general packet radio service tunneling protocol or a multi-protocol label switching protocol.

15. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the resource node further provides balancing a load between available resources.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Previously Presented) A method, comprising:
determining negotiation information at a resource node, the negotiation information comprising cost; and

passing the determined negotiation information between the resource node and a managing node.

18-19. (Cancelled)

20. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:

a traffic flow manager configured to manage a traffic flow;

an information receiver configured to receive negotiation information ~~determined at a resource node from the~~ a resource node, the negotiation information comprising cost information which is determined at the resource node; and

a selector configured to select at least one parameter for a new traffic flow based on said negotiation information.

21. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:

a resource manager configured to communicate with user equipment; ~~and~~

an information determiner configured to determine negotiation information, the negotiation information comprising cost; and

an information passer configured to pass said negotiation information to a managing node.

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Previously Presented) A computer program embodied on a computer readable medium, said computer program configured to control a processor to perform:

determining negotiation information at a resource node, the negotiation information comprising cost; and

passing the determined negotiation information between the resource node and a managing node.

24-25. (Cancelled)

26. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as claimed in claim 20, wherein said parameter is at least one of the following, traffic handling class, cost, and target bit rate.

27. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as claimed in claim 21, wherein the apparatus comprises an access node which is configured to communicate with user equipment.

28. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as claimed in claim 27, wherein the access node is a base station or radio network controller.

29. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as claimed in claim 21, wherein said apparatus is comprised in an access node.

30. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as claimed in claim 21, wherein the apparatus further comprises a load balancer configured to balance a load between available resources.

31. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim ~~44~~ 17, further comprising negotiating in order to select the at least one parameter.

32. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 31, wherein said negotiation information further comprises at least one of type of traffic and bit rate of the traffic.

33. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 17, wherein said negotiation information is determined for a plurality of different traffic handling classes.

34. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim ~~42~~ 17, wherein said parameter is at least one of the following, traffic handling class, cost, and target bit rate.

35. (Currently Amended) ~~A method~~ An apparatus as claimed in claim 20, wherein said apparatus is comprised in a managing node located at an edge of a network.

36. (Currently Amended) ~~A method~~An apparatus as claimed in claim ~~17~~ 20, wherein said apparatus is comprised in a managing node comprising a gateway general packet radio service support node.

37. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 17, wherein said resource node is an access node.

38. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 17, wherein the managing node further provides guiding an actual flow rate to a target flow rate.

39. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 17, wherein the managing node further provides detecting a new flow.

40. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 17, wherein the resource node further provides balancing a load between available resources.

41. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 17, wherein communication between the managing node and resource node is via a general packet radio service tunneling protocol or a multi-protocol label switching protocol.

42. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:
managing a traffic flow;

receiving negotiation information ~~determined at a resource node~~ from ~~the~~ a resource node, wherein the negotiation information comprises cost information which is determined at the resource node; and

selecting at least two parameter for a new traffic flow based on said negotiation information.

43. (Currently Amended) A computer program embodied on a computer readable medium, said computer program configured to control a processor to perform:

managing a traffic flow;

receiving negotiation information ~~determined at a resource node~~ from ~~the~~ a resource node, wherein the negotiation information comprises cost information which is determined at the resource node; and

selecting at least two parameter for a new traffic flow based on said negotiation information.

44. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:

managing means for managing a traffic flow;

information receiving means for receiving negotiation information ~~determined at a resource node~~ from ~~the~~ a resource node, wherein the negotiation information comprises cost information which is determined at the resource node; and

selecting means for selecting at least two parameter for a new traffic flow based on said negotiation information.